AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Utilisation of amount for infrastructure of the National Games at Manipur

1840. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds provided for construction of infrastructure for the Fifth National Games at Manipur;

(b) whether Government are aware that the State Government has spent from the State Development fund which has greatly affected the State development programme;

(c) if so, whether there is any plan to reimburse it; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Funds amounting Rs. 60.64 crore have been made available by the Central Government for construction of infrastructure for the Fifth National Games in Manipur.

(b) to (d) Details of the expenditure incurred by the State Government on holding the National Games are awaited and the question of reimbursement, if necessary, would only arise thereafter.

Infrastructure Development Plan for North-East

1841. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is not any committed plan during the present Government for the North-east States to cope with the infrastructure development plan of the area like that of the previous Prime Minister;

(b) if so, when it will be taken-up; and

(c) if not how the great gaps of average incomes of North-eastern States from the National average can be filled up in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) The development issues of the North Eastern States and Sikkim were discussed in a Meeting convened by the Prime Minister with the Chief Ministers of these States on 8th May, 1998. The further steps to be taken in this regard include the adoption of an approach whereby projects would be identified in consultation, inter-alia, with the State Governments, the setting up of a Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources for funding specific projects in the North East and Sikkim and restructuring of the North Eastern Council (NEC).

A Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources has since been constituted and funds have been released, the Current financial year, to assist development projects, including in the infrastructure sector, in the North-East.

Resource Crunch in Andhra Pradesh

1842. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has pointed out resource crunch to discharge their duties under the 74th amendment like water supply, sanitation, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to assist the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Space Scientists on Foreign Postings

1843. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) in which countries have our space scientists been posted;

(b) the works they are supposed to do;

(c) what is criteria for selecting space scientists for foreign postings;

(d) whether there is any system of mid-term appraisal their performance outside; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) The Department of Space (DOS) has posted its Scientists/Enginerrs in USA, France and Mauritius as given below:

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Scientists/ Engrs. posted
1.	USA	1
2.	France	1
3.	Mauritius	2
	Total	4

(b) The Scientists posted in USA and France are responsible for Liaision and coordination between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and relevant space institutions/industries abroad dealing with Space Technology and its applications;

The Scientists posted to Mauritius are responsible for:

(i) providing telemetry, tracking and command operations support to Indian Remote Sensing Satellites through a set of equipment at our Ground Station in Mauritius on a continuous basis; and

(ii) to carryout maintenance and installation activities, whenever required, for the equipment in the station etc.

(c) The criteria for selection of Scientists/Engineers posted at USA and France are that the selectee should be an experienced Space Scientists with technomanagerial ability to assess the needs of Indian Space Programme and undertake technical liaison abroad and to establish and maintain scientific and technical linkages with space agencies, space industries and other institutions. Selection will be from amongst senior Scientists/ Engineers, by a High Level Committee.

In the of Scientists/Engineers posted at Mauritius, the selection is based on technical skill the Scientists/Engineers possess with regard to Ground Station Equipment, their operation and maintenance, spacecraft operations support, space communication links, experience with similar activities in Ground Station in India etc.

(d) Yes, Sir, performance appraisal is done annually.

(e) Does not arise.

Launching of INSAT-2E

1844. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to launch INSAT-2E;

(b) if so, what kind of services are likely to be rendered from INSAT-2E;

(c) the expected date of launching it; and